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ASSESSMENT WORK

The President on June 29 signed into law S. 3639 which extends from July 1, 1950 to October 1, 1950 the time in which claimholders may perform their assessment work for the current year. The provision that an intention to hold should be filed before 12 o'clock meridian on the first day of July, 1950 was removed from the bill before it became a law.

Following is a verbatim copy of the bill signed by the President:

"An Act providing for an extension of the time during which annual assessment work on mining claims held by location in the United States, including Alaska, may be made, and for other purposes.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the time during which labor may be performed or improvements made, under the provisions of section 2324 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, on any unpatented mining claim in the United States, including Alaska, for the period commencing July 1, 1949, is hereby extended until the hour of 12 o'clock meridian on the 1st day of October, 1950: Provided, that assessment work or improvements required for the year ending at 12 o'clock meridian July 1, 1951, may be commenced immediately following 12 o'clock meridian July 1, 1950."

Mr. Aspinall, from the Committee on Public Lands, submitted the following:

Explanation of the Bill (H. R. Report No. 2248)

S. 3639, as amended, extends for 3 months the time allowed for the performance of annual assessment work on mining claims in the United States, including Alaska, for the period commencing July 1, 1949.

This proposed legislation involves section 2324 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C., sec. 28), which requires an expenditure of at least \$100 in labor or improvements of a mining nature to be made during each year on all mining claims located in the United States, including Alaska.

The Congress has suspended assessment-work requirements since 1941. In the past few years legislation for the purpose was not enacted until near the end of each assessment year, which ends July 1. As a result, many claimants of mining claims, finding that relatively few gold, silver, and other domestic mineral deposits are susceptible to economic exploitation under today's conditions, have